the calamity is of a server nature and the funds available in the State's CRF account are not sufficient, additional assistance is provided to the States out of the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). The details of the releases from CRF and NCCF during the current financial year 2006-07 to the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat. Rajashtan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh are as under:

State	Amount released (Rs. in crore)	
	CRF	NCCF
Maharashtra	220.00	589.90
Gujarat	246.87	545.69
Rajasthan	413.66	100.00
Chhattisgarh	150.33	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	246.67	30.85

Shortage of fishes in the oceans

2570. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an acute shortage of fishes is on the increase in the oceans, these days;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that as a result of fish catching, there shall be no fish in the oceans at the end of 2050 AD; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by Government particularly in the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean not to allow cathing of fishes to avoid scarcity of food etc. in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the trends in marine fish production. The marine fish production in India is not on the decline. Against a fishable potential of 3.921 million tonnes in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), the present harvest is only around 3 million tonnes. Being a renewable resource, total extinction offish by 2050 AD is not predicted by any one.

(c) Governments have been implementing various conservation measures such as closed seasons, setting up of marine parks and resorting to resource enhancement measures. The Marine Fishing Regulation Acts of coastal States prohibit any destructive type of fishing and also address the issues like conservation and management of resources. Besides, awareness programmes and training of fishermen are also conducted to popularize the message of sustainable and responsible fishing. The Comprehervsive Marine Fishing Policy promulgated by the Government also emphasizes the aspects of resource conservation and management.

G.M. crops

†2571. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH
MAJITHA: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the genetically modified seeds of number of crops are being used for production in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these seeds and the developers of these seeds;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the advantages of these seeds are being highlighted by the developers of the seeds while their negative effect are being concealed; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Bt. Cotton, developed by M/s Mahyco Monsanto Biotech (India) Ltd., M/s. J.K.Agri Seeds Ltd. and M/s. Nath Seeds, in the only Genetically Modified (GM) crop approved by Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, for commercial cultivation in the country.

(c) and (d) All GM crops are tested for bio-safety, efficacy, advantage and economic viability of the introduced trait, prior to granting permission for their release in the environment.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi